

single out the person who has called to him, and, if he does, his reply is drowned in a torrent of hoots.

"Let 'em howl" is the only dope I can see. There have been incidents where an obnoxious fan has sought a front seat and picked on one player continually. This happened on the old Columbia-av. grounds in Philadelphia when "Rube" Waddell was pitching.

It was afterward discovered the spectator who aroused Rube's ire and caused him to leap over the railing and beat him up had wagered a big sum upon the contest, and as he saw the Athletics forging ahead figured his only chance he had of winning laid in Waddell's retirement.

However, his disgusting method of bringing about Rube's downfall resulted in a beating for himself and Rube was allowed to finish and win the game. A three-day suspension followed and Rube took a fishing trip.

There have been numerous similar incidents where a player subjected to abuse sought revenge upon the spot. A story is told of how "Steve" Brodie halted a game, grabbed the scoreboard boy's ladder, climbed up in the bleachers and chased a fan-bug who had been "riding" him.

Of course, Tyrus Cobb's fuss in New York stands out just now. It seems as though there are instances where a player is justified in taking a punch at a spectator because the latter has called him a vile name. But only personal satisfaction is gained, and such action means suspension. The

club's chances are jeopardized by such action.

When a ball player feels he is abused by a spectator he has only to appeal and the umpire will order an officer to evict the insulter.

But you can rest assured that while baseball reigns supreme fans will have their say, and the player who can't stand being called a "bonehead" had better give up hope of becoming a fixture.

If satisfaction must be had let redress be off the field. If a man who sees fit to curse a player in uniform has courage he won't be afraid to repeat it after the game, and then let them have it out. If the spectator does not have the nerve then he is a coward and the worst is too good for him.

OUR PRECISE ARTIST.



"Spring's come."